



RELEASE DATE: April 9, 2014

PRESS RELEASE:

UNVEILING OF NEW SCOUT CARS

Today, the Detroit Police Department is pleased to unveil the remainder of the generously donated 2013 Detroit Police Scout Cars. Twenty five 2013 Chevy Caprices will hit the streets ready to patrol the neighborhoods of Detroit. These 25 vehicles are in addition to the 72 scout cars which were released periodically throughout the year. We are also please to unveil 2 Dodge Durango's which were purchased by the City of Detroit for the Departments K-9 Unit.

The Detroit Police Department would like to thank Roger Penske from the Penske Corporation, Dan Gilbert of Quicken Loans and Rock Ventures, as well as the Ford Motor Company, General Motors, Chrysler Group L.L.C. and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, all for their gracious and unwavering support which they have shown for the City of Detroit and its Public Safety and without whom these beautiful new vehicles would not have been possible.

These vehicles are a prime example of the spirit of Detroit and what we can achieve if we come together as one for the betterment of this great city.

TASER AXON FLEX BODY-WORN CAMERAS

Beginning Monday, April 14, 2014, the Detroit Police Department will pilot the Taser Axon Flex Body-Worn Camera and Taser Body System Camera, in our 2nd Precinct as part of a 30 day study, at no cost to the department or City. This program will look at how body worn cameras impact the duties of police officers. 18 Officers and 2 Supervisors from various shifts will participate in this program. 14 members will receive the Taser Axon Flex Body-Worn cameras and 6 members will be equipped with the Taser Body System Camera.

The Taser Axon Flex Body-Worn Camera is a unique cutting edge technology, designed to capture video and audio evidence from the officer's perspective. Officers participating in this program will perform their assigned duties with the body camera affixed to his or her person for recording of their daily activities. Data captured by the equipment will be uploaded to a secure cloud-based website for quick retrieval and sharing of critical information. The piloted program will be deployed to ensure integrity and privacy guidelines.



The Taser Axon Flex Body Worn-Camera and the Taser Body System Camera is a great tool and has many benefits for officers and citizens. The body-worn cameras will not only allow officers to accurately document critical information, crime scene evidence and police / citizen interaction but also promote more confidence within the community.

HIRING OF EMERGENCY SERVICE OPERATORS AND EMERGENCY POLICE DISPATCHERS

In an effort to service the community more efficiently, Detroit Chief of Police James E. Craig has strategically place more officers into the community while adding more Civilians into jobs that were previously perform by police officers.

As of April 8, 2014, 67 civilians were hired, of which 34 are Emergency Service Operators (ESO) and 33 are Emergency Police Dispatchers. These Civilians have gone through vigorous training to ensure complete knowledge of their entity. The ESO training consists of a 12 week program. The Police Dispatcher's training consists of a 16 week program. The civilians were hired in an effort to place more officers into the community while adding more Civilians into jobs that were previously performed by police officers.

PR-84

For additional information, please contact the Office of Public Information at 313-596-2200.

Office of Public Information • 1301 Third Street, 7 South • Detroit, MI 48226
(313) 596-2200 • FAX (313) 596-1450 • TTY 9-1-1 • www.detroitmi.gov/police